

## **STEALING, BUYING AND SELLING DRUGS AT SCHOOL AND ELSEWHERE**

Stealing prescription drugs in the 12 months prior to the survey was reported by 5% of students, the same percentage of students who reported stealing illegal drugs. About 11% of students reported selling illegal drugs in the past 12 months, and 19% reported buying illegal drugs during that period. Fully 44% of students reported having been offered or given an illegal drug in the past 12 months.

To what extent was drug activity occurring while students were at school? Among students stealing prescription drugs and illegal drugs, much less than 1% (0.4% and 0.6%, respectively), did so at school.

In the 12 months before the survey, 2% of all students, or 17% of students who reported selling drugs, sold illegal drugs while at school, while 3% of students (16% of those buying drugs) bought illegal drugs at school. Finally, 9% of students were offered or given illegal drugs while at school. This represents 20% of students offered or given drugs in the 12 months prior to the survey.

## **AGE AT FIRST USE OF ATOD**

Students were asked at what age they first used alcohol, tobacco or other drugs. Excluding students who had never used each substance, the following average ages at first use or ages at onset of use by drug were determined:

### **Average Age of First Use of ATOD by Drug Among Tennessee High School Students, 1995/1997**

<u>Drugs by Type</u>	<u>Average Age at First Use (in years)</u>
Smokeless tobacco	12.2
Cigarettes	12.3
Beer	12.9
Wine	13.1
Inhalants	13.1
Heroin	13.5
Liquor	13.6
Steroids for body building	14.0
Marijuana	14.1
Ice or crystal meth.	14.1
PCP and hallucinogens other than LSD	14.2
Cocaine/crack	14.4
LSD	14.5
First episode of intoxication with alcohol	13.7